

State of Alaska
Department of Commerce,
Community & Economic Development



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Economic Development Week Highlights Economic Growth Opportunities Across Alaska

May 3, 2018 ANCHORAGE – Alaska communities will join cities across the country celebrating [National Economic Development Week](#) from May 7 through 12, 2018. The week acknowledges the importance of economic development and highlights programs that improve the quality of life and help create jobs and wealth in communities across the state.

Additionally, Governor Bill Walker has declared May 2018 [Buy Alaskan month](#) in recognition of the significance of buying locally made products and supporting Alaska's small businesses. Next week, the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development will also be announcing the winner of the 2017 Manufacturer of the Year award. The award is presented annually to an outstanding [Made in Alaska](#) permit holder that exemplifies the high quality products made, manufactured, and handcrafted in Alaska.

2018 Economic Development Week events include:

- [Anchorage Chamber of Commerce Make it Monday Forum](#)
Hosted by the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce
Monday, May 7 from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m.
Dena'ina Center (600 W. 7th Ave, Anchorage)
\$30 members, \$35 non-members, \$15 students; register [online](#) or purchase tickets at door
The Manufacturer of the Year award will be presented at the beginning of the event. Then Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development Commissioner Mike Navarre will discuss *Opportunity Alaska: China Trade Mission*, which will bring a delegation of 26 companies, led by Governor Walker, Commissioner Navarre, and the Office of International Trade Director Shelley James, to China later this month to meet with potential customers, industry, and key government officials.
- [Fairbanks Economic Development Week Kick-Off Party](#)
Hosted by the Fairbanks North Star Borough and Explore Fairbanks
Monday, May 7 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Morris Thompson Cultural & Visitor Center (101 Dunkel St., Fairbanks)
Free; [RSVP](#) required
Fairbanks-area community members are invited to a social evening celebrating the economic development profession, professionals, and partners. The event will recognize individuals, programs, and projects that bring economic prosperity to the Fairbanks North Star Borough. Food and drink provided. A full calendar of [Fairbanks-area Economic Development Week events](#) is also available.

- **[Ocean Tuesday – The Relationship Between Ocean Acidification and Alaska’s Economy](#)**

Hosted by the Alaska Ocean Cluster

Tuesday, May 8 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

University of Alaska Center for Economic Development (1901 Bragaw St., Anchorage) or via [webinar](#)

Free

Jessica Cross will speak about the relationship between ocean acidification, ecology, and the economy in Alaska, and ways local communities can build resilience. Jessica is a federal scientist that studies and monitors ocean acidification in Alaska for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Ocean Acidification Program. The weekly Ocean Tuesday webinar is a statewide virtual presentation highlighting various private, public, and academic leaders working in Alaska’s ocean or “blue” economy.

- **Made in Alaska Permit Holder Meet-Ups**

Hosted by the State of Alaska Division of Economic Development

[Anchorage Meet-Up](#): Tuesday, May 8 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

SteamDot Cafe Loft (609 F Street, Anchorage)

Free for Made in Alaska permit holders and interested businesses.

10 percent discount offered at SteamDot Cafe.

[Juneau Meet-Up](#): Tuesday, May 8 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Coppa (917 Glacier Ave #102, Juneau)

Free for Made in Alaska permit holders and interested businesses.

10 percent discount for Coppa products.

For current and future Made in Alaska permit holders in the Anchorage and Juneau areas—give feedback on how the program can better serve you (or learn how to participate in the program if you are not yet a permit holder), socialize with other permit holders, pick up promotional materials, meet the Division of Economic Development staff who manage the program, and ask your questions! Alaska Grown program staff also will be in attendance at the Anchorage event.

- **[1 Million Cups Entrepreneur Pitch – Akela Space](#)**

Hosted by the Anchorage Museum

Wednesday, May 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Anchorage Museum Auditorium (625 C Street, Anchorage – use the 7th Avenue entrance)

Free

Oscar Avellaneda-Cruz, co-founder of the recently opened downtown Anchorage gallery Akela Space, presents on experiential art in Anchorage. 1 Million Cups is a weekly event that is part of national program designed to educate, engage, and connect entrepreneurs with their communities.

- **[First Look: State of Entrepreneurship Research and Catalyzer Sprints Discussion](#)**

Hosted by the University of Alaska Business Enterprise Institute

Thursday, May 10 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Boardroom (601 West 5th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Anchorage)

Free; register [online](#)

This workshop is for those interested in promoting economic development in their communities and innovation in their organizations. It will provide a first look at the new *State of Entrepreneurship in Alaska* report. The panel, including representatives from the [Ocean Technology Innovation Sprint](#), [Growspace](#), the [UA President's Innovation Challenge](#), and the [VOLT49 renewable energy sprint](#), will discuss lessons learned about the catalyzer process pioneered by University of Alaska Center for Economic Development.

- **[The Business of Art: Creative Capital Workshop](#)**

Hosted by the Anchorage Museum

Thursday, May 10 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Anchorage Museum (625 C Street, Anchorage)

\$5 fee; space is limited, [registration](#) required

Take your creative practice to the next level with Colleen Keegan from Creative Capital, the national nonprofit that provides artists with funding, counsel, and career development. Designed for professional artists, this workshop combines nuts-and-bolts strategies with an empowering approach for integrating strategic planning and business management skills into creative practice.

- **[UAF Center for Innovation, Commercialization, and Entrepreneurship Open House](#)**

Hosted by the UAF Center for Innovation, Commercialization, and Entrepreneurship

Thursday, May 10 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

University of Alaska Fairbanks Engineering Facility (1764 Tanana Loop, Suite 424, Fairbanks)

Free

What's the University of Alaska Fairbanks' Center for Innovation, Commercialization, and Entrepreneurship (Center ICE) all about? Come find out! Located in the new Engineering Facility, Center ICE invests in innovation, incubators, and entrepreneurial programs. A network of mentors, professionals, and entrepreneurs can help entrepreneurs navigate the many steps in developing a startup—from obtaining a business license, to raising capital, to create a professional website.

National Economic Development Week was created by the International Economic Development Council in 2016 to increase awareness of local programs that create jobs, advance career development opportunities, and improve quality of life. Use *#EconDevWeek* on social media to post about related events or to see what is going on in other parts of the country.

Housed within Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED), the Division of Economic Development supports the growth and diversification of Alaska's economy through policy, promotion, financing, and business assistance. For additional information about the division, please visit commerce.alaska.gov/web/DED. To learn more about DCCED and its other agencies, please visit commerce.alaska.gov.

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